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Dear Phyllis Corbiere,

My name is Tanya Fontaine Porozni and I am the Program Coordinator for the Community Learning Association in St. Paul. Our organization helps organize adult education classes in and around St. Paul. The province has directed our funding towards eliminating barriers to education and employment and has encouraged partnerships with other organizations to address this mandate. One of the partnerships we have formed is with the Kinokamâs Healing Ride. The intent of the ride is to address trauma and healing; to build confidence and relationships; so that all those involved, spectators, volunteers and participants, can share in a positive experience that will contribute to the long-term health of our community.

On Wednesday June 20, 2018, this ride will begin at Kehewin First Nation at 7:00 AM and end at the University of Blue Quills around 6:00 PM. The ride will travel through County of St. Paul along Highway 41 and then Highway 29. The organizing committee wishes to inform the County Council of our intent and to invite and welcome Council members or County residents, to witness or participate in the ride. For more information on how to volunteer please email: healingride@gmail.com or to check out media coverage, follow the link: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/kehewin-cree-nation-ride-dakota-38-ben-badger-1.4581442>

This initiative is being led by Ben Badger, council member of Kehewin Cree Nation. The ride is supported by several non-Indigenous parties as well. The Bethel Church is welcoming the ride to St. Paul, where a stop will be made at approximately 3:30 PM. This is a place where spectators could assemble to show their support. There is also a lunch break planned at Dog Rump Creek at noon, where a farming family has welcomed the riders to use their land for a lunch break and neighbors are invited to bring food and visit. It would be an honour to have representation from County Council attend this noon gathering.

I look forward for the opportunity to discuss and answer questions in person on June 12 at your Council meeting.

Sincerely,

Tanya Fontaine